NOMINATION FOR AWARD				
AWARD		CATEGORY (If Applicable)		AWARD PERIOD
Air Force Public Affairs Director's Excellence Award		Small Wing		1 Jan 31 Dec. 2002
RANK/NAME OF NOMINEE (First, Middle Initial, Last)		SSN (Enter Last 4 Only)	MAJCOM, FOA, OR DRU	
Arnold Engineering Development Center Public Affairs Staff				
DAFSC/DUTY TITLE	NOM	NOMINEE'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial)		
	N 340-4204; Comm. 931-454-4204			
UNIT/OFFICE SYMBOL/STREET ADDRESS/BASE/STATE/ZIP CODE				
AEDC/PA/100 Kindel Drive, Suite B213/Arnold AFB/TN/37389				
RANK/NAME OF UNIT COMMANDER (First, Middle Initial, Last)/COMMANDER'S TELEPHONE (DSN & Commercial)				
Colonel David J. Eichhorn/DSN 340-5201; Comm. 931-454-5201				

SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Use single-spaced, bullet format)

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAM

- The best public affairs team in AFMC continually proved itself in 2002 by telling the story of the world's best-known air and space ground test facility insuring AF Global Influence and Deterrence
- PA staff led the charge during AFMC Commander's Conference; reaping praise from AFMC/CC -- Gen. Lyles said, "I thought this conference was excellent. The support from AEDC was fantastic!"
- -- Lt. Gen. Coolidge stated AEDC focused on AFMC needs to set tone for a successful conference
- Soared back stronger than ever after the 9-11 restrictions were lifted from the center tour program
- -- Gladly supported 168 base tours showcasing AEDC and the Air Force to more than 2,600 people
- Warfighting PA team went beyond day-to-day work with one deployed three months and another volunteered in battle staff; military members went on two-day field exercise to ensure their readiness

RESEARCH AND PLANNING

- AEDC PA led the charge in preparations for Centennial of Flight Celebration Air Show in June 2003
- -- Diligently worked with three local chambers of commerce to rekindle community support for event Critical player in AEDC contract competition process striking balance between base needs and public
- Precisely coordinating every aspect of release process of potential \$1 billion base operating contract
- Expertly provided trusted counsel to base leaders when union picketers arrived at Arnold AFB gates
- -- Advance planning had Air Force key messages ready for media outlets to help diffuse situation -- Strong community ties served AEDC well when county officials brought concerns over state program for aerial mapping over the base; PA plan communicated security issues while keeping public support
- Quickly provided sound advice and counsel to senior leaders after murder suspect arrested in billeting
 Media's focus on awareness of employee spotting suspect instead of irony of refuge at military base

PROGRAM EXECUTION AND EVALUATION

- Successfully implemented innovative internal electronic password protected security review system
- -- New process greatly reduced time to clear technical documents eliminating multiple paper copies Constantly helping tell the Air Force story by processing more than 300 security review documents
- -- Expertly balanced the public's right to know with the security requirements of the AF and DoD
- PA staff stepped up for the community serving on the planning committee for city's 150th anniversary
- Aggressively pursued wide spread involvement in the newly-formed Arnold Community Council
- -- Guided the organization through an increase in membership of more than 100 percent in one year!
- -- The council board now consists of representatives from more than 10 Middle Tennessee counties
- Prominently placed AEDC on the cover as well as eight pages inside of new Aerospace Testing International magazine's launch edition which was distributed at Farnbourgh Air Show in July 2002
- Worked closely with newly-elected Congressman's staff to hold press conference after first base visit
- -- More importantly helped establish future relationship with the new representative and his staff

INNOVATIVENESS OF PROGRAM

- Greatly increased Air Force awareness convincing two television stations to begin running AFNEWS
- Flawlessly hosted successful Civic Leader Tour to WPAFB and Pratt & Whitney engine facilities
- -- More than 30 representatives from eight communities now more in tune with AEDC and Air Force
- -- Strengthened AEDC key customer tie allowing interchange with Pratt & Whitney senior leaders
- -- Providing "Big Picture" of AEDC importance brought rave reviews from many community leaders
- Leading player in Tennessee's Job Shadow Day hosting nearly 80 young people from area schools
- -- Showcasing Air Force and AEDC mission to high school students who could be future AF leaders
- Spearheaded an initiative to have AF Radio News played on base phone system for callers on hold
- Partnered with state government to initiate Tennessee Means Technology campaign featuring AEDC
- -- Worked with PR firm to develop ads--\$100K-plus in free publicity in magazines such as Fortune
- The outstanding AEDC PA Team met the challenges of a post 9-11 world head on and continued to convey the positive Air Force message, proving once again they are truly Excellent in All They Do!